

REMARKS

The Examiner has finally rejected claims 1-18 that are pending in the subject application. The Examiner, in the Official Action, has responded to Applicant's previous argument arguing that the Parulski et al. reference (U.S. 6,573,927) teaches the claimed invention.

Applicant respectfully submits that the cited Parulski reference does not teach or suggest "distributed multi-media assets" (Applicant incorrectly referred to "distributor multi-media assets" in the previous response) as an asset that has been distributed among at least one other device, be it local or non-local. The Examiner states that this definition is not found in the current claim language. However, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims must be read in light of the specification. In this particular instance, Applicant points the Examiner to the specification at page 29, lines 21-23 wherein a specific definition of distributed multi-media asset is provided. Thus the term "distributed multi-media asset" must be read in light of the specification and given the definition as set forth by the specification. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the phrase "distributed multi-media assets" be given the definition as appropriately provided by the specification.

It is respectfully submitted that the Parulski et al. reference does not teach or suggest distributed multi-media assets as taught and claimed by Applicant. Quite the contrary, the Parulski reference is directed to a method and system for ordering services from a fulfillment provider. There is no teaching or suggestion of having multiple stored images at various locations as taught and claimed by Applicant. The fulfillment provider simply takes the images and instruction, and produces an image product. This is not a distributed network to which the present invention is directed.

The fact that the order is forwarded to a service provider does not translate into a set of distributed multi-media assets as taught and claimed by Applicant. Thus, the Parulski et al. reference could not even appreciate the problem to which the present invention is directed. In particular, the present invention allows for the ability of modifying one of the images at one of the sets and then updating (i.e. synchronizing) the other images at the various other locations as set forth by independent claim 1.

The Examiner argues that the feature of updating other distributable multi-media assets as argued is not found in the claim. In this regard, if the definition of set of "distributed multi-media assets" is given the definition set forth by Applicant, then the automatically synchronizing others of the set of distributed multi-media assets would automatically update the others. Thus, claim 1 does indeed claim the synchronizing of others sets. The Parulski reference does not teach or suggest this, in fact could not teach or suggest this as Parulski is directed to the ordering the goods or services from a fulfillment provider. It does not teach or suggest the distributed multi-media assets as taught and claimed by Applicant, nor is there any teaching or suggestion of synchronizing images between the fulfillment provider and the sender. Quite the contrary, since the user is simply ordering of goods and/or services, there is no need to teach or suggest the synchronizing of images. Quite simply the Parulski et al. reference is directed to providing information that allows the fulfillment provider to fulfill the order. See for example, column 3 lines 39-44. It is respectfully submitted that on this basis alone the Parulski et al. reference fails to teach or suggest the invention as set forth in independent claim 1.

Claim 2 further sets forth the providing of an edit list for accomplishing the synchronization. There is no teaching or suggestion of providing an added list as taught and claimed by Applicant. What is taught and suggested in Parulski et al. is the providing of instructions that are to be carried out and information sufficient to allow the fulfillment provider to accomplish the desired order. In the present invention, the edit list contains information about how to perform reconstruction of the distributed multi-media asset.

The reference to Appendix I and II in Parulski et al. simply sets forth information that is provided in the order for the fulfillment provider. It does not teach or suggest the maintaining of a distributed multi-media assets among various locations or the automatic synchronization thereof as taught and claimed by Applicant. Further it does not teach or suggest the edit list to which the present invention is directed.

In summary Applicant respectfully submits that the claims in their present form are in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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If the Examiner is unable to reach the Applicant(s) Attorney at the telephone number provided, the Examiner is requested to communicate with Eastman Kodak Company Patent Operations at (585) 477-4656.